

[ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE]

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In a plasma display panel, first and second switches are coupled in series between a power source $V_s/2$ and a first terminal of the panel capacitor, and third and fourth switches are coupled in series between the first terminal of the panel capacitor and a power source $-V_s/2$. A capacitor is coupled between a contact of the first and second switches and a contact of the third and fourth switches, and is charged to voltage $V_s/2$. The withstand voltages of the first and second switches are clamped to the voltage $V_s/2$ while the voltage $-V_s/2$ is applied to the first terminal of the panel capacitor. Likewise, the withstand voltage of the third and fourth switches are clamped to the voltage $V_s/2$ while the voltage $V_s/2$ is applied to the first terminal of the panel capacitor.

[REPRESENTATIVE DRAWING]

Fig. 4

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PDP, withstand voltage, switching element, sustain discharge